REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant acknowledges, with thanks, the office action dated April 16, 2008, and completion of the telephonic interview of June 12, 2008. The Examiner's observations and suggestions are much appreciated and summarized herein. The Examiner's withdrawal of the finality of the previous Office Action is noted with appreciation. Claims 1-3, 5-10, and 12-14 are currently pending.

Claims 1-3, 5-10, and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,127,524 to Renda et al. (*hereinafter*, "Renda") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,516,416 to Gregg et al. (*hereinafter*, "Gregg"). In view of the amendments and arguments set forth below, it is submitted that all pending claims are patentably distinct over the art of record.

The subject application is directed to a system and method for role-based control of a document processing device. An electronic document is received into a document processing device which includes a printer, a copier, and a scanner, via an associated network and a scan file is generated corresponding to a scan of a tangible document rendered by the document processing device. A document processing instruction for a document processing operation to be performed on at least one of the electronic document and a received tangible document is also received via an associated network. User data of an identity of a user of a document processing device is acquired via the associated network, wherein the user data is associated with the received electronic document. The user provides login data, after prompting thereof, via an interface associated with the document processing device. Device access data of device access privileges associated with each of a plurality of users, user data, and login data is compared with the device access data and the login data is associated with at least one preselected user role. A permission matrix template specifying allowable usage options of the data processing device associated with each of a plurality of user roles is retrieved, and permission matrix data is generated as in accordance with the at least one preselected user role and retrieved permission matrix template, the permission matrix data including data representative of allowable usage options of the document processing device from a plurality thereof by a user associated with the user data. The permission matrix data is then communicated to the document processing device to allow for control thereof. The permission matrix is stored on a data storage associated with the document processing device, and the operation of the document processing device is limited

to a subset of available operations in accordance with the stored permission matrix such that the document processing operation is terminated when not permitted by the stored permission matrix.

The subject rejection is based primarily on the teachings of Renda, which essentially is a routing system for network communication. A database is used to dictate which network data connectivity in accordance with a particularly device's MAC address. It is submitted that routing of network traffic is far removed from selective control of functionality of available features on a document processing device. Routing determines whether (or how) data flow. No functionality of selective features on a document processing device are controllable, or controlled. Gregg is directed to a hardware key based authentication system that, like Renda, facilitates control of network access.

The subject application teaches control of document processing device functionality, such as printing, copying, facsimile transmission, and the like. Various user permissions are set in accordance with a permission matrix. No control is sought relative to routing of documents. By way of example, one user may have permission specified in the matrix relative to both facsimile transmission and printing. A user suitably sends a job to a device via a network, along with instructions to perform both operations an electronic document. The document is transmitted and received, and both operations are performed. Another user may not have facsimile privileges. That user can still freely send an electronic document to the same device, and request a print, and that print would be permitted. Routing is not affected. However, since the second user does not have facsimile transmission privileges specified in the permission matrix, this operation would not be permitted.
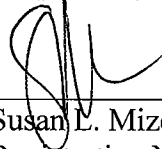
Amendment has been made to each of independent claims 1 and 8 to render more clearly the distinctions, summarized above and in the interview, over the art of record. As amended, each claim now includes limitations wherein a document processing device is specifically given functionality of printing, copying and scanning. Operations of these functions are dictated by a permission matrix, and operations are terminated when not permitted. For the reasons discussed, it is submitted that this is far removed from the teachings of the art of record.

In accordance with the afore-noted amendments and comments, it is submitted that all claims are patentably distinct over the art, and in condition for allowance thereover. An early allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 66329/00141.

Respectfully submitted,

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